

LIGHT DEALINGS IN WALL STREET TREND IRREGULAR

Declaration of Usual Dividend by New York Central Cheered Sentiment, Strength at Close.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The holiday spirit prevailed in the trading on the Stock Exchange today and the dealings for the most part were in 100-share lots, and in many cases for smaller amounts.

The opening was generally an 1/8 higher, and during the late morning a reaction occurred which drove prices down in many cases below last night's closing.

A few minutes before the close the market developed strength. The last sale of Reading, which led the list, was 14 1/4.

Up 1/2, Amalgamated Copper, 50, up 1/4, New York Central, 50, up 1/4, Union Pacific, 11 1/2, up 1/4, and Pennsylvania, 10 1/2.

There was no news of any consequence. About the only thing which occurred to cheer sentiment was the fact that the New York Central declared the usual dividend.

The manner in which the stock market acted demonstrated clearly that security values will be determined by the easy financial situation, and not by the speculative operations in the bear market.

These traders seemed to have market movements in absolute control yesterday, when United States Steel common yielded to the minimum of 48.

It was generally expected that this decline would be followed by a reduction of the minimum, perhaps, of 40, but after the long session of the governing committee at the regular meeting.

This position of the governors leaves the bears at present prices without much room to turn in, and for a time this morning the trading element was a bear.

Accompanied by reports of lower prices for copper, Amalgamated Copper was subjected to pressure, declining to 4 1/2.

The street was greatly encouraged by the announcement of the representative of a large Wall Street house that the Lusitania did not bring nearly as large an amount of securities as was generally expected.

Movements of currency this week included a loss in cash by the banks of \$1,446,000. From the interior the banks received \$1,217,000, and shipped to the interior \$7,021,000, including \$1,172,000 national bank notes sent to Washington for redemption.

Announcement was made that the Federal Reserve Bank of New York had lowered the discount rate on 30-day commercial paper to 4 1/2 per cent, for other maturities 5 per cent.

THE HOODLES, of International Power Co., File Petition. NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Alfred H. Hoodley and others filed an involuntary petition for bankruptcy against the International Power Company, a New Jersey corporation in the United States District Court here today.

Stockholders have sought to obtain an accounting of the company's property, charging that the resources were turned to the benefit of the two Hoodleys, the former president having received a salary of \$10,000 a year and his brother \$6000.

NEW YORK STOCK SALES

Table listing various stocks such as Atchafalpa, American Can, Am. Sugar, etc., with their respective prices and changes.

NEW YORK BOND SALES

Table listing various bonds such as 200 Adams Express, 1000 Am. Bond, etc., with their respective prices and changes.

NEW YORK STOCK QUOTATIONS

Table listing various stocks such as Am. Bond, Am. Sugar, etc., with their respective prices and changes.

NEW YORK CURE

Table listing various stocks such as Am. Bond, Am. Sugar, etc., with their respective prices and changes.

GOVERNMENT BONDS

Table listing various government bonds such as 1000 U.S. 4 1/2, 1000 U.S. 4, etc., with their respective prices and changes.

DIVIDENDS DECLARED

Table listing various companies and their declared dividends.

CHRISTMAS CHEER CHECKED TRADING IN PHILADELPHIA

Stocks Inclined to Sag in Slow Session While Brokers Observed Time-Honored Custom of Yuletide.

An overcast tone prevailed on the local exchange today, while the volume of sales was exceedingly light and trading fell off to nominal proportions after 11 o'clock on account of the usual Christmas cessation.

After opening strong at 68 to 62 1/2 Pennsylvania gradually receded below yesterday's low point. Reading showed a relatively larger loss, but the reason for this was that the stock ended lower in New York yesterday than it did in Philadelphia.

Reading second preferred sold off four points from the last previous quotation. Small losses were also recorded in United Gas, Philadelphia Electric and Electric Storage Battery, while U. S. Steel continued to cling close to the minimum limit.

In relation to this it was pointed out today by the head of a large brokerage house that many people feel the present minimum restrictions on the stock exchange are prohibitive and do not check actual declines which are thereafter established on the so-called "gutter market" where the regular members of the Stock Exchange are prohibited from dealing.

Lehigh Valley was quoted ex-dividend this morning, and sold a point below par with last night's final quotation. As has been expected, the company's November statement showed further heavy decreases in gross earnings, the loss amounting to \$38,541.

Despite a reduction of \$107,150 in operating expenses, net earnings also fell \$154,341 compared with the corresponding period in 1913. For the year the decrease in total operating expenses was \$41,012.

Operating expenses were reduced \$38,626 and operating income fell \$182,138 compared with 1913. With the company facing additional losses through the reduction in rates on anthracite into this city the outlook for the coming year can hardly be considered encouraging unless a sharp revival in general business and an accumulation of favorable conditions prevail throughout the winter.

In the local bond market today there was little to report. Philadelphia Electric 4s were a little reactionary, while Reading 4s and American Gas 5s were steady. A block of \$14,500 Interstate Railway 4 per cent, bonds sold at 96 under the usual terms understood to be an aftermath of the Lieber-fund.

LOCAL STOCK AND BOND SALES

Table listing local stock and bond sales such as 20 Atchafalpa, 100 Am. Bond, etc., with their respective prices and changes.

HALF HOURLY SALES

Table listing half hourly sales such as 10 to 10:30 A.M., 10:30 to 11 A.M., etc., with their respective prices and changes.

10:30 TO 11 A.M.

Table listing sales from 10:30 to 11 A.M. such as 25 Penna., 15 Gen. App. Bond, etc., with their respective prices and changes.

11:30 TO 12 P.M.

Table listing sales from 11:30 to 12 P.M. such as 100 Am. Bond, 100 U.S. 4 1/2, etc., with their respective prices and changes.

12 TO 12:30 P.M.

Table listing sales from 12 to 12:30 P.M. such as 20 U.S. 4 1/2, 100 U.S. 4, etc., with their respective prices and changes.

12:30 TO 1 P.M.

Table listing sales from 12:30 to 1 P.M. such as 100 U.S. 4 1/2, 100 U.S. 4, etc., with their respective prices and changes.

1 TO 1:30 P.M.

Table listing sales from 1 to 1:30 P.M. such as 100 U.S. 4 1/2, 100 U.S. 4, etc., with their respective prices and changes.

WHEAT IS NERVOUS WITH GOOD SUPPORT ON ALL RESSIONS

Usual Desire to Curtail Commitments Before Holiday Apparent—More Sales for Export.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—Wheat values again moved nervously today, but the market found excellent support on all recessions. The usual desire to curtail commitments before a holiday was apparent, but there was no diminution of interest in the developments affecting the situation.

There was more export business, sales being estimated at 1,000,000 bushels. The winter wheat crop generally is well protected and added moisture and snow cover in the movement into trade channels is expected during January.

It is estimated that only 25 per cent of the whole crop remains in the hands of farmers in Kansas, about 85 per cent in Oklahoma and 55 per cent in Nebraska. Bradstreet's reported the exports of wheat and flour for the week at 7,916,000 bushels, against 8,818,000 bushels a year ago and since July at 39,306,000, against 146,763,000 the preceding year.

Provisions were irregular, following a slow start. One of the features was selling of pork by packers. There was a liberal market for hams, but caution was shown in carrying provisions over the holiday. Prices were easier near the end.

Leading futures ranged as follows: Wheat—Open 1.20 1/2, High 1.20 3/4, Low 1.20 1/4, Close 1.20 1/2. December 1.20 1/2, January 1.20 1/4, February 1.20 1/4, March 1.20 1/4, April 1.20 1/4, May 1.20 1/4, June 1.20 1/4, July 1.20 1/4, August 1.20 1/4, September 1.20 1/4, October 1.20 1/4, November 1.20 1/4, December 1.20 1/2.

Emergency currency to the amount of \$50,000 has been retired at the local Sub-treasury. Corn Exchange National Bank, \$50,000; Union National Bank, \$10,000; Bank of North America, \$50,000, and the Sixth National Bank, \$30,000.

Manufacturing companies of this country have received orders for war munitions valued at more than \$200,000,000 from the belligerent Powers, according to Charles M. Schwab.

By declaring a quarterly dividend of 1 per cent, the Midwest Refining Company made its first distribution to stockholders since organization last March.

It was explained that the apparent decrease of \$46,324 in November net earnings of the Lehigh Valley Transit Company was chiefly due to the fact that a full year's dividends and an accumulation of interest from subsidiary companies were received in November, 1913, while in 1914 these dividends and interest have been received in monthly installments.

The New York Central new organization declared an initial quarterly dividend of 1/4 per cent. Action had been deferred until the consolidation was complete.

The Baldwin Locomotive Works received orders aggregating six small locomotives for delivery in January.

The directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, at their regular meeting today, elected Frank M. Hardt to the position of secretary as well as cashier.

The New York Banks lost to the Sub-treasury yesterday \$2,777,000 and since Friday \$4,581,000.

The bond department of the W. S. Baker & Co. will be under the management of William C. Williamson in the future.

In the local market today the following stocks were quoted ex-dividend, except for Pennsylvania Company for which the dividend was not yet announced. Minehill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad, and Lehigh Valley, common and preferred.

The average price of 20 railroad stocks at the close last night was down to \$7.91, the lowest point touched since March 6, 1908. The high for 1914 was 10.43.

A New York Cotton Exchange membership sold for \$9000 against a previous price of \$5000.

Ervin & Co. will move into their new offices in the west wing of the Drexel Building Monday next. The Drexel office will occupy the old office in the east wing.

The directors of the New York Central Railroad Company, at their first meeting, elected all the same officers that had served the old New York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company. The board of directors also is unchanged.

The Chicago Board of Trade has increased the commission on cash grain transactions 1/2 cent, making it 1/2 of 1 cent per bushel, effective immediately.

The New York Stock Exchange has admitted the following securities to its list: \$2,715,000 first preferred, \$7,457,500 second preferred, \$2,664,300 common stock and \$2,664,300 stock trust certificates extended to 1918 of the J. I. Case Threshing Machine Company, \$71,000 five-year 6 per cent convertible debentures of the 1912 Consolidated Copper Company.

The stockholders of the Concord and Montreal Railroad have authorized the issue of \$200,000 debenture bonds. The proceeds are to be turned over to Boston and Maine in payment for improvements made under lease.

The New York Federal Bank reduction rate was reduced to 4 1/2 per cent for 30 days and 5 for longer maturities.

Philadelphia brokers stated they would not be surprised to see money work a little tighter next week, owing to preparations for the end of the year and January disbursements.

According to Bradstreet's exports of wheat this week amounted to 7,916,000 bushels; last week, 8,818,000 bushels; last year, 146,763,000 bushels; since July 1, 1914, 39,306,000 bushels compared with 146,763,000 bushels during the same period of 1913.

A protective committee has been formed for the preferred and common stocks of the Toledo, St. Louis and Western Railroad, now in the hands of a receiver. Stockholders are asked to deposit their stocks with the Receiver Trust Company, of New York.

NEW YORK COFFEE MARKET

Table listing coffee market prices such as 1000 Rio, 1000 Santos, etc., with their respective prices and changes.

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THE PHILADELPHIA MARKETS

GRAIN AND FLOUR WHEAT—Receipts 102,811 bushels. The market was fairly active and prices of wheat were higher. Quotations: No. 2 soft, new, 1.20 1/2; No. 2 hard, new, 1.20 1/4; No. 3 soft, new, 1.19 1/2; No. 3 hard, new, 1.19 1/4; No. 4 soft, new, 1.18 1/2; No. 4 hard, new, 1.18 1/4; No. 5 soft, new, 1.17 1/2; No. 5 hard, new, 1.17 1/4; No. 6 soft, new, 1.16 1/2; No. 6 hard, new, 1.16 1/4; No. 7 soft, new, 1.15 1/2; No. 7 hard, new, 1.15 1/4; No. 8 soft, new, 1.14 1/2; No. 8 hard, new, 1.14 1/4; No. 9 soft, new, 1.13 1/2; No. 9 hard, new, 1.13 1/4; No. 10 soft, new, 1.12 1/2; No. 10 hard, new, 1.12 1/4; No. 11 soft, new, 1.11 1/2; No. 11 hard, new, 1.11 1/4; No. 12 soft, new, 1.10 1/2; No. 12 hard, new, 1.10 1/4; No. 13 soft, new, 1.09 1/2; No. 13 hard, new, 1.09 1/4; No. 14 soft, new, 1.08 1/2; No. 14 hard, new, 1.08 1/4; No. 15 soft, new, 1.07 1/2; No. 15 hard, new, 1.07 1/4; No. 16 soft, new, 1.06 1/2; No. 16 hard, new, 1.06 1/4; No. 17 soft, new, 1.05 1/2; No. 17 hard, new, 1.05 1/4; No. 18 soft, new, 1.04 1/2; No. 18 hard, new, 1.04 1/4; No. 19 soft, new, 1.03 1/2; No. 19 hard, new, 1.03 1/4; No. 20 soft, new, 1.02 1/2; No. 20 hard, new, 1.02 1/4; No. 21 soft, new, 1.01 1/2; No. 21 hard, new, 1.01 1/4; No. 22 soft, new, 1.00 1/2; No. 22 hard, new, 1.00 1/4; No. 23 soft, new, 0.99 1/2; No. 23 hard, new, 0.99 1/4; No. 24 soft, new, 0.98 1/2; No. 24 hard, new, 0.98 1/4; No. 25 soft, new, 0.97 1/2; No. 25 hard, new, 0.97 1/4; No. 26 soft, new, 0.96 1/2; No. 26 hard, new, 0.96 1/4; No. 27 soft, new, 0.95 1/2; No. 27 hard, new, 0.95 1/4; No. 28 soft, new, 0.94 1/2; No. 28 hard, new, 0.94 1/4; No. 29 soft, new, 0.93 1/2; No. 29 hard, new, 0.93 1/4; No. 30 soft, new, 0.92 1/2; No. 30 hard, new, 0.92 1/4; No. 31 soft, new, 0.91 1/2; No. 31 hard, new, 0.91 1/4; No. 32 soft, new, 0.90 1/2; No. 32 hard, new, 0.90 1/4; No. 33 soft, new, 0.89 1/2; No. 33 hard, new, 0.89 1/4; No. 34 soft, new, 0.88 1/2; No. 34 hard, new, 0.88 1/4; No. 35 soft, new, 0.87 1/2; No. 35 hard, new, 0.87 1/4; No. 36 soft, new, 0.86 1/2; No. 36 hard, new, 0.86 1/4; No. 37 soft, new, 0.85 1/2; No. 37 hard, new, 0.85 1/4; No. 38 soft, new, 0.84 1/2; No. 38 hard, new, 0.84 1/4; No. 39 soft, new, 0.83 1/2; No. 39 hard, new, 0.83 1/4; No. 40 soft, new, 0.82 1/2; No. 40 hard, new, 0.82 1/4; No. 41 soft, new, 0.81 1/2; No. 41 hard, new, 0.81 1/4; No. 42 soft, new, 0.80 1/2; No. 42 hard, new, 0.80 1/4; No. 43 soft, new, 0.79 1/2; No. 43 hard, new, 0.79 1/4; No. 44 soft, new, 0.78 1/2; No. 44 hard, new, 0.78 1/4; No. 45 soft, new, 0.77 1/2; No. 45 hard, new, 0.77 1/4; No. 46 soft, new, 0.76 1/2; No. 46 hard, new, 0.76 1/4; No. 47 soft, new, 0.75 1/2; No. 47 hard, new, 0.75 1/4; No. 48 soft, new, 0.74 1/2; No. 48 hard, new, 0.74 1/4; No. 49 soft, new, 0.73 1/2; No. 49 hard, new, 0.73 1/4; No. 50 soft, new, 0.72 1/2; No. 50 hard, new, 0.72 1/4; No. 51 soft, new, 0.71 1/2; No. 51 hard, new, 0.71 1/4; No. 52 soft, new, 0.70 1/2; No. 52 hard, new, 0.70 1/4; No. 53 soft, new, 0.69 1/2; No. 53 hard, new, 0.69 1/4; No. 54 soft, new, 0.68 1/2; No. 54 hard, new, 0.68 1/4; No. 55 soft, new, 0.67 1/2; No. 55 hard, new, 0.67 1/4; No. 56 soft, new, 0.66 1/2; No. 56 hard, new, 0.66 1/4; No. 57 soft, new, 0.65 1/2; No. 57 hard, new, 0.65 1/4; No. 58 soft, new, 0.64 1/2; No. 58 hard, new, 0.64 1/4; No. 59 soft, new, 0.63 1/2; No. 59 hard, new, 0.63 1/4; No. 60 soft, new, 0.62 1/2; No. 60 hard, new, 0.62 1/4; No. 61 soft, new, 0.61 1/2; No. 61 hard, new, 0.61 1/4; No. 62 soft, new, 0.60 1/2; No. 62 hard, new, 0.60 1/4; No. 63 soft, new, 0.59 1/2; No. 63 hard, new, 0.59 1/4; No. 64 soft, new, 0.58 1/2; No. 64 hard, new, 0.58 1/4; No. 65 soft, new, 0.57 1/2; No. 65 hard, new, 0.57 1/4; No. 66 soft, new, 0.56 1/2; No. 66 hard, new, 0.56 1/4; No. 67 soft, new, 0.55 1/2; No. 67 hard, new, 0.55 1/4; No. 68 soft, new, 0.54 1/2; No. 68 hard, new, 0.54 1/4; No. 69 soft, new, 0.53 1/2; No. 69 hard, new, 0.53 1/4; No. 70 soft, new, 0.52 1/2; No. 70 hard, new, 0.52 1/4; No. 71 soft, new, 0.51 1/2; No. 71 hard, new, 0.51 1/4; No. 72 soft, new, 0.50 1/2; No. 72 hard, new, 0.50 1/4; No. 73 soft, new, 0.49 1/2; No. 73 hard, new, 0.49 1/4; 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